Voice of Emmanuel

Love God, Love People, Make Disciples

www.emmanuelypsi.org **facebook.com/emmanuelypsi** **info@emmanuelypsi.org**

MARCH **2025**

February 2025
Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In his 30th or 33rd year of life Jesus was in the midst of his ministry. He willingly journeyed to Jerusalem despite the danger that he knew awaited him. Before he traveled to Jerusalem, Jesus spent time on another journey. He ventured into the wilderness on his own and spent 40 days in prayer, re-dedication, and facing temptations. Satan confronted Jesus and tempted our Lord three times in the dessert.

Our observance of Lent is a time of preparation and reflection, self-examination and repentance. The 40 days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday and include the weekdays, excluding Sundays, leading to Easter. As Jesus meditated on the mission before him, we too have the opportunity to meditate on Christ's journey—and our own journey of discipleship in walking through the world on a mission to better emulate and embody Christ's Peace.

Our leaders have been thoughtfully preparing for our communal practice in this Lenten season and I look forward to our prayers and introspection together. To help us observe, devotionals from *A Sanctified Art* will be available; they promise to be thought-provoking.

On Ash Wednesday, I will offer Ashes To Go outside Emmanuel from 9:30am-11:30am and 1:00pm-3:30pm, a reminder of our mortality. We will also gather for services at Emmanuel at 12noon and joint service at First Presbyterian, 7pm.

We will gather in the Gathering Area at 6pm on Wednesday Evenings for a meal and a *Vespers,* or evening prayer, service. We will use Marty Haugen's beautiful *Holden Evening Prayer* service, which I am confident will be a blessing for us all.

Lent culminates in our Holy Week celebrations, which will be rich in meaning. A Maundy Thursday service will be held at 7pm, where we will relive Jesus' practice of washing his disciple's feet. I hope you will partake in this ritual by having your feet washed.

Our Good Friday service will also be held at 7pm, remembering the day of Christ's death by crucifixion. The liturgy will include Veneration of the Cross and invite participants to physically observe this remembrance.

In this coming season of Lent, we remember the character of Christ our Lord, our servant God who went to the Cross willingly—for our sake—so that he could accomplish so much more for all the world. As Jesus stepped into the dessert to pray and focus, let us too pray and focus on Jesus. I invite you into this Holy Journey of Lent.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Joshua D. Rinas

Happy Birthday to all who were born in March!
Neil Bennett, Roger Bonderud, Ryan Wenzel, Michele Jenkins, Vivian Phillips, Richard Timmons, Emma Meadows, Jessica Phillips, Ty Shingledecker, Diane Safford, Karen Grover, Kathryn Martin

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March 2nd – *Transfiguration of Our Lord*

Birthday Sunday
Join us for a birthday coffee hour from 11:00am – 12:00pm.

2025 Easter Lily Orders
It is that time of year once again! Easter Lily order forms can be found in the Narthex. Lilies are $9.50. You can place your order form and payment in the offering, the office mailbox, or mail it to the church. Deadline for orders is March 23rd. Thank you!

March 4th – *Fat Tuesday*

Pancake Supper – Ypsilanti Scout Troop 290

What: Fat Tuesday, March 4th Pancake Supper

Cost: $10/adult and $7/kids (under 13)

Tickets: No need for advanced sales, tickets can be bought at the door when you arrive.

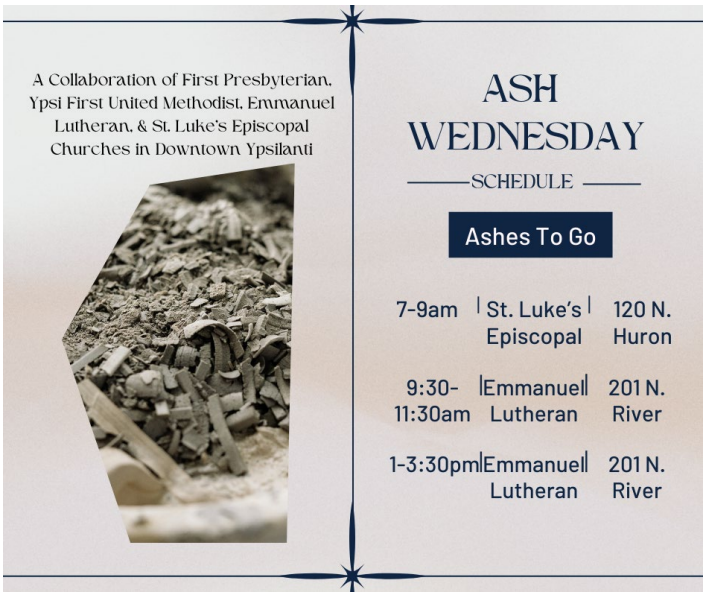
Where: In the Emmanuel Basement

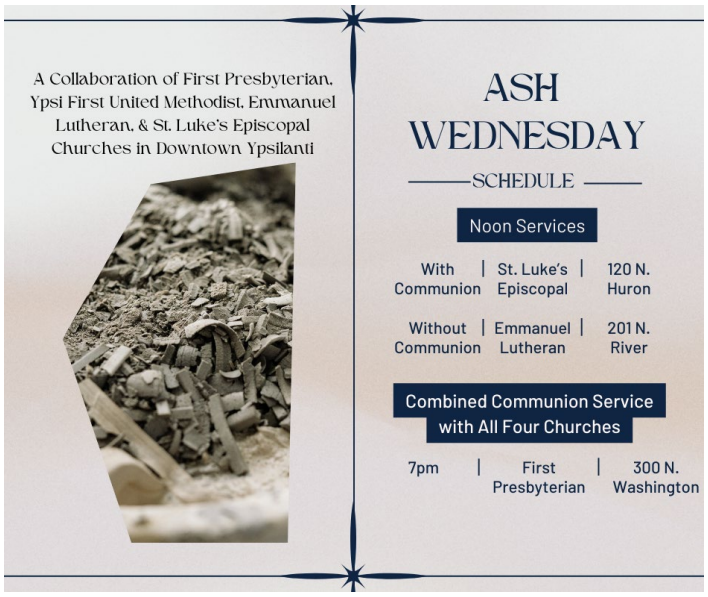
Serving: 5:30pm till 7:00pm

Menu: Pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee, milk, juice, etc…

March 5th – ***Ash Wednesday***

Ashes to Go & Ash Wednesday Services





March 8th

Washtenaw Refugee Welcome
10:00am – Noon

March 9th – ***1st Sunday of Lent***

Confirmation Class

March 12th – ***Lenten Supper & Service***

Lenten Suppers will be served at 6:00pm

Holden Evening Prayer Service will begin at 7:00pm

March 16th – ***2nd Sunday of Lent***

Council Meeting

March 17th – ***Happy St. Patrick's Day!***

March 18th

Let's Go Out to Eat!
The Membership Committee would like to invite to a meal and conversation on Tuesday, March 18th at 5pm at Aubree's in Depot Town – located at 39 E. Cross St. Ypsilanti, MI. This is simply a social event meant for people to get to know each other better. If you have a friend who you'd like to bring who isn't a member at Emmanuel, they're more than welcome!

March 19th – ***Lenten Supper & Service***

Quilting 11:00am – 1:00pm

Lenten Suppers will be served at 6:00pm

Holden Evening Prayer Service will begin at 7:00pm

March 23rd – ***3rd Sunday of Lent***

Confirmation Class

March 26th – ***Lenten Supper & Service***

Lenten Suppers will be served at 6:00pm

Holden Evening Prayer Service will begin at 7:00pm

SOCIAL CONCERNS - JANUARY NUMBERS

Clothes Closet

68 families representing 219 people were served in January. The Clothes Closet was only open 3 Wednesdays in January. The Closet was closed January 1 for the holiday and closed January 22 for bad weather.

Please do not leave donations in the basement or anywhere else in the church. Donations left elsewhere are subject to being thrown out. There are too many other groups that meet at the church and donations left in other areas could be in the way of those groups.

Food Pantry

At January's 5 distribution dates, 234 families representing 618 individuals visited 402 times for servicing a total of 1028 people. The Food Pantry received 13,064 pounds of food, valued at $24,119.54 from Food Gatherers grant funding and USDA free food. January average attendance was just over 80 families per week. The Food Pantry shifted its distribution to Thursday during New Year's week and then back to normal distribution hours starting Wednesday January 8.

Quilting

*happens 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 11am in the Gathering area. No experience necessary, come and join the small team!

Don't forget:

*If you need medical equipment, there is a medical loan closet at the Ypsilanti Township Community Center, 2025 E. Clark Rd., 734-544-8300. Information on other local medical loan closets can be found at http://www.loanclosets.org

*If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry or Clothes Closet, please leave your name and contact information at the church office and someone will contact you!

Are you a Thrivent member?

Did you know that every Thrivent associate member has at one Action Grant every year that could bring in $250 for a special project, every full benefit member has 2 Action Grants every year. If you are a Thrivent member, please let Jennifer know in the church office. A list is being compiled to see how many special projects can be used to help Emmanuel this year and years to come.

Last year, Action Grants were used for helping purchase batting for the Quilt team, toys for the Christmas Giveaway and toiletries for the Food Pantry. Even if you have never applied for Action Grants, help is available so that you can help special projects.

Thank you for letting the office know if you are a Thrivent member, by emailing info@emmanuelypsi.org, leaving a message at 734-482-7121 or leaving a note in the offering plate or the box on the office door.

Bird Flu and egg shortage

Bird flu is a disease caused by certain flu viruses that usually spreads between birds, not people. Infected birds can spread the virus through their mucous, saliva or feces. People rarely get bird flu, but when they do, it's most often through direct unprotected contact (no gloves, protective wear, facemasks, respirators or eye protection) with infected birds. People can become infected by breathing virus in droplets in the air or possibly dust, or by touching surfaces contaminated with infected bird mucous, saliva or feces and then touching their eyes, mouth or nose. Bird flu spreads rather quickly so domesticated flocks are usually culled to prevent the spread of the virus if one bird gets bird flu. There is no cure for bird flu. With decreased egg laying flocks, there are fewer eggs available in grocery stores.

Wild birds that can be infected with bird flu viruses include hawks, eagles, vultures and waterbirds, like ducks, geese and swans. Bird flu can spread from wild birds to poultry, like chickens and turkeys. While most wild birds can be infected with bird flu viruses without being sick, poultry, like chickens and turkeys, can get very sick and die from certain bird flu viruses. Most common songbirds or other birds found in the yard, like cardinals, robins, sparrows, blue jays, crows or pigeons, do not get infected with the bird flu viruses that can be dangerous to poultry or possibly spread to people.

Bird flu does not spread through food. Chicken, turkey, beef and eggs cooked to appropriate temperatures kills bacteria and viruses including Bird flu or avian influenza A viruses, if the meat of an infected bird would end up in food stream. Birds that are infected are not used for food. Pasteurization also kills bacteria and viruses including bird flu in milk. It is best to choose pasteurized milk and dairy products made with pasteurized milk.

Be careful where you walk if there are bird droppings, make sure that the meat you eat is fully cooked and your milk is pasteurized!

Ways to Give

Giving can be done online by clicking here. You can also give via text at 734-548-9438. Simply text the amount you would like to give and follow the prompts. You can mail checks to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

PayPal

Select payment type as "Friends and Family" using emmanuelypsi@gmail.com. Please indicate if it is for a special account (food pantry, memorials, etc.) where it says add message.

New Giving Mobile App

Download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation.

Would you like to reward your Emmanuel community?

You can now register Emmanuel as your designation for Kroger community rewards points ($). In your Kroger.com account, click on "MY ACCOUNT" and the bottom pick in the left menu is Community Rewards, where you can search for Emmanuel Lutheran Church or TG750 and then click ENROLL. Thank you!

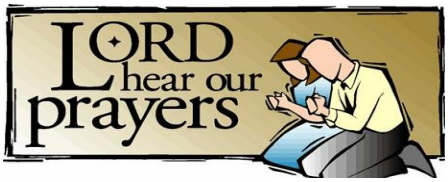
Emmanuel's dear sister in Christ, Barb Miller, is moving!

Her new address is:
5237 Sheffer Farm Road, Unit 207, Traverse City, Michigan 49685

I know she would love to keep in touch with all her Emmanuel friends.

Prayers requested for:

John, Mary, Corky, Lynn, Vicki, Ruth, Judy, Mary Beth, Eric, Steve, Marilynn, Barb, and Linda.



It's time to order Easter Lilies. They cost $9.50, You may pick up your lily after the service on Easter, or any day that week (call the office for times), or you may designate it to be given to a sick or shut-in member.

Please use this form to order your lily (lilies). Return this form and your payment to the office no later than March 23, 2025.

I wish to order _____ lily(lilies) in honor/memory of:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Presented/Given by:

_____
_____

_____I will pick up my lily after the service.

_____My lily may be given to a sick or shut-in member.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Neil Bennett
2 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 8:45am Handbell Choir 9:30am Chancel Choir 10am Worship 11am Birthday Coffee Hr 6pm Scouts Roger Bonderud Ryan Wenzel	3 Michele Jenkins	4 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery	5 ASH WEDNESDAY 9am—10:30am Clothes Closet 9:30—11:30 Ashes to Go Noon Ash Wed Service 1:00—3:30 Ashes to Go 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg. Vivian Phillips	6 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 7pm—9pm YCC Dick Timmons	7 6pm –8pm NA Meeting	8 10am-12pm Washtenaw Refugee
9 LENT 1 8:45am Handbell Choir 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour Confirmation Class	10	11 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery	12 9am -10:30am Clothes Closet 12:30-2pm Bible Study 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 6pm Lenten Supper 7pm Holden Eve Prayer 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg.	13 9am Class of '53 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 7pm—9pm YCC	14 6pm –8pm NA Meeting Emma Meadows	15

16 LENT 2 8:45am Handbell Choir 9:30am Chancel Choir 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 6pm Scouts 	**17** 	**18** 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery Let's Go Out to Eat! 5pm @Aubree's	**19** 9am Men's Club Mtg. 9am—10:30am Clothes Closet 11am—1pm Quilting 12:30-2pm Bible Study 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 6pm Lenten Supper 7pm Holden Eve Prayer 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg. Jessica Phillips	**20** 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 7pm—9pm YCC Ty Shingledecker	**21** 6pm –8pm NA Meeting Diane Safford	**22**
23 LENT 3 8:45am Handbell Choir 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour Confirmation Class 6pm Scouts	**24** Melanie Sperle	**25** 10:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 1:30pm Food Delivery	**26** 9am—10:30am Clothes Closet 12:30-2pm Bible Study 3pm-5pm Food Pantry 6pm Lenten Supper 7pm Holden Eve Prayer 8pm—9 pm AA Mtg.	**27** 9:30am Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 7pm—9pm YCC	**28** 6pm –8pm NA Meeting Karen Grover	**29** Kathryn Martin
30 8:45am Handbell Choir 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 6pm Scouts	**31**					

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10AM IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

BETHEL WORSHIP @ 12PM

** Birthdays listed at the bottom of each day*

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
201 North River Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198-2808

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter
Check the box and return ☐

Return service requested

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
734/482-7121 info@EmmanuelYpsi.org
www.EmmanuelYpsi.org
facebook.com/EmmanuelYpsi

Interim Pastor……...……..….Joshua Rinas
Congregational President……..……..…….Peter Walline
Vice-President…….…….……..Nancy Slezak
Treasurer……..……..Dee Fleszar
Office Administrator……..……Jennifer Mays
Disciples……..……....All the Members of Emmanuel

Church Office Hours are Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.